Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-12 OIC-04 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01

USIA-12 PRS-01 SCI-06 COA-02 INT-08 ACDA-19 RSR-01

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R 120839 Z APR 73 FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7283 INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CONFIDENTIAL SEOUL 2266

BEGIN SUMMARY: MOFA OFFICER HAS DESCRIBED FOR US
SUBJECTS WHICH ROKG FONMIN WISHES TO RAISE WITH GOJ
FONMIN OHIRA WHILE IN TOKYO FOR ECAFE MEETING. END SUMMARY.

PRESS HAS ANNOUNCED THAT FONMIN KIM YONG- SIK WILL GO TO TOKYO APRIL 13 TO LEAD ROK DELEGATION TO ECAFE, PLANNING TO RETURN AROUND APRIL 17. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, ONE OF FONMIN'S MAIN PURPOSES IN LEADING ECAFE DELEGATION IS TO HAVE CHANCE TO TALK WITH JAPANESE FONMIN OHIRA. WITH HIM, ACCORDING TO MOFA ASIAN AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRECTOR CHI, FONMIN WANTS TO DISCUSS THREE MAIN SUBJECTS:

- A. JAPAN/ NORTH KOREAN RELATIONS. FONMIN WILL APPEAL TO JAPANESE NOT TO EXPAND RELATIONS IN ANY WAY WHICH WOULD WEAKEN OR UNDERMINE ROK POSITION IN THE SOUTH- NORTH DIALOGUE;
- B. REGIONAL COOPERATION. FONMIN WILL SOUND OUT OHIRA ON JAPANESE THINKING AND PLANS WITH RESPECT TO ASPAC OR A REPLACEMENT REGIONAL ORGANIZATION;
- C. CONTINENTAL SHELF NEGOTIATIONS. CHI SAID THAT GOJ, SEIZED WITH JURISDICTIONAL STRUGGLE BETWEEN NAKASONE OF MITI AND OHIRA OF FOREIGN MINISTRY OVER CONFIDENTIAL

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RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONTINENTAL SHELF MATTERS, HAS BEEN STALLING SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENT EVEN THOUGH MAIN SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES HAVE ALL BEEN RESOLVED. CHI WAS FAIRLY CONFIDENT THAT OHIRA WOULD PREVAIL AND THAT DURING PRESENT TRIP PLANS COULD BE COMPLETED FOR SIGNATURE OF THE AGREEMENT IN THE NEAR FUTURE. HABIB

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^{***} Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

^{***} Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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TOKYO

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